Public Law 97-309
97th Congress

# An Act

To extend the aviation insurance program for five years.

Oct. 14, 1982
[H.R. 5930]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the last sentence of section 303(b)(1) of the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 (49 U.S.C. 1902(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows: "At any given time, no less than three members of the Board shall be individuals who have been appointed on the basis of technical qualification, professional standing, and demonstrated knowledge in the fields of accident reconstruction, safety engineering, human factors, transportation safety, or transportation regulation.". The amendment made by the preceding sentence shall not preclude the reappointment of any individual serving as a member of the Board on the date of enactment of this Act.

Aviation insurance program, extension.
National Transportation Safety Board membership.
49 USC 1902 note.

SEC. 2. Section 306 of the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 (49 U.S.C. 1905) is amended in subsection (a) by striking out "pursuant to subsection (b)" and inserting in lieu thereof "pursuant to subsection (b) or (c)" and by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(c) COCKPIT VOICE RECORDER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board shall withhold from public disclosure cockpit voice recorder recordings and transcriptions, in whole or in part, of oral communications by and between flight crew members and ground stations, that are associated with accidents or incidents investigated by the Board: *Provided,* That portions of a transcription of such oral communications which the Board deems relevant and pertinent to the accident or incident shall be made available to the public by the Board at the time of the Board's public hearing, and in no event later than 60 days following the accident or incidents: *And provided further,* That nothing in this section shall restrict the Board at any time from referring to cockpit voice recorder information in making safety recommendations.".

Information, availability to public.

SEC. 3. Section 1312 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. 1542) is amended by striking out "1982" and inserting in lieu thereof "1987".

SEC. 4. (a) Section 1601(a) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. 1551(a)) is amended by striking out paragraph (3) and by redesignating paragraph (4), and all cross references thereto, as paragraph (3).

(b) Section 1601(b)(1)(C) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. 1551(b)(1)(C)) is amended by striking out "(relating to foreign air transportation)".

Approved October 14, 1982.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 5930:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 97-519 (Comm. on Public Works and Transportation), Nos. 97-722 and 97-864 (Comms. of Conference).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 128 (1982):
June 2, considered and passed House.
June 21, 22, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Aug. 12, Sept. 30, Conference report considered and passed Senate.
Sept. 30, House agreed to conference report.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 18, No. 41 (1982):
Oct. 14, Presidential statement.